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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/035,597	10/18/2001	Martin Lyons	13625/002001/107809	2866
20985	7590	12/15/2004	EXAMINER	
FISH & RICHARDSON, PC 12390 EL CAMINO REAL SAN DIEGO, CA 92130-2081			MENDOZA, ROBERT J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3713	

DATE MAILED: 12/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/035,597	LYONS, MARTIN
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Robert J Mendoza	3713

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 September 2004.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
  - 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)             | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)                     |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)    | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____  |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                                    |

**DETAILED ACTION**

**Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102**

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

**Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Okada (USPN 5,127,651).**

Regarding claims 1-4, 7 and 10-12, Okada discloses, in FIGS. 1-5, col. 2:10-67, col. 3:15-67, col. 4:1-67 and col. 5:1-67, a gaming system, which includes a simulation system for running a simulation the playing of a game to simulate the entire playing of a game round from start to finish, the simulation system enabling predetermined starting parameters to be set, a comparator for comparing an end condition of a simulation run by the simulation system in an invisible manner using the starting parameters with a pre-calculated desired outcome of the game. Okada discloses, in FIGS. 1-5, col. 2:10-67, col. 3:15-67, col. 4:1-67 and col. 5:1-67, adjustment means for adjusting the starting parameters such that the end condition of a subsequent running of the simulation in a visible manner coincides with the end condition of the desired outcome of the game, and re-running the simulation such that its end condition coincides with the desired outcome of the game. , Okada discloses, in FIGS. 1-5, col. 2:10-67, col. 3:15-67, col. 4:1-67, col. 5:1-67 and col. 6:1-64, the simulation system is software based, the simulation system is used as means to drive a display of a graphical outcome for the game, and control means for controlling playing of the game.

Regarding claims 5, 6, 8, 9 and 13-17, Okada discloses, in FIGS. 1-5, col. 2:10-67, col. 3:15-67, col. 4:1-67, col. 5:1-67 and col. 6:1-64, at least part of the control means includes a random number generator for generating random numbers, processing mean includes simulation software to perform the simulation and running of iterations of the simulation and the simulation software sets random starting parameters for the simulation. , Okada discloses, in FIGS. 1-5, col. 2:10-67, col. 3:15-67, col. 4:1-67, col. 5:1-67 and col. 6:1-64, once the simulation end condition has been arrived at and the desired outcome for the game has been determined, adjusting the starting parameters by one of a discrete amount and a mapping function, adjusting the starting parameters using a difference between the now known end condition of the simulation and the determined, desired outcome for the game. , Okada discloses, in FIGS. 1-5, col. 2:10-67, col. 3:15-67, col. 4:1-67, col. 5:1-67 and col. 6:1-64, re-running the simulation using the new starting parameters and displaying the re-running simulation as the simulation progresses.

**Response to Arguments**

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

**Conclusion**

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

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MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to R. Mendoza whose telephone number is (571) 272-4439. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Xuan Thai, can be reached at (571) 272-7147. The USPTO official fax number is (703) 872-9306.



RM

December 13, 2004

  
XUAN M. THAI  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
